

## Brinkley establishes key management positions

Three key management positions in the International Space Station Program have been established to help lead preparations for impending launch and flight operations.

Astronaut Kevin Chilton becomes deputy for operation, Doug Cooke for technical development and Dan Tam becomes acting deputy for business management.

Space Station Program Manager Randy Brinkley said the positions, announced last week, reflect the space station program's progress from hardware development into flight operations and the need to strengthen the management team to deal with the expanding scope of management activities.

"We are less than 18 months from space station flight operations," Brinkley said. "These new positions will allow us to focus the program management on getting ready to launch and assemble the Inter-

national Space Station" Brinkley said.

In the coming months Brinkley and his team will conduct simultaneous hardware development and flight operations reviews with contractors throughout the U.S. and with the member nations of the five international space agencies and their contractors that are partners in the ISS program.

JSC Director George Abbey said the combined operational experience of Chilton, the engineering and development experience of Cooke, and the proven business management abilities of Tam will ensure the space station team maintains the momentum gained in the past two and a half years.

"Because of the scope of activities it is appropriate that we strengthen our management team as we move toward the flight phase of the program," Abbey said.

Cooke participated in the space station redesign and transition from the Freedom program to the current International Space Station in 1993-94 and served as space station vehicle manager until his appointment in 1995 to the position of acting deputy program manager. Cooke managed the analysis office of space station from 1984-1986 and served as the deputy manager and manager of the Exploration Program Office from 1989-1992 after which he served as the chief engineer for station.

Tam has been the station program's business manager since 1994. He came to NASA following a near 20-year career with TRW where his procurement experiences included management positions in price/cost analysis and subcontracts over a broad range of space and technology programs in support of NASA, the Department of Defense and other agency missions.



Chilton

Cooke

Tam

Saucier

**Saucier dies**

Dave Saucier of the Space Station Program Office died recently from cancer.

Saucier joined JSC in 1965 in the Thermochemical Test Branch in the Propulsion and Power Division. In 1984, Saucier received a total heart transplant and was instrumental in helping develop a small, lightweight pump that assists the natural heart's pumping action. The Heart Pump Project is maturing and Baylor College of Medicine is making significant progress.

During the post-*Challenger* return-

to-flight effort, Saucier became assistant subsystem manager for the Fuel Cells and Power Reactant Storage and Distribution System. He later transferred to the Orbiter Project Office where he became the project manager for the Extended Duration Orbiter.

Most recently, Saucier was the launch package/stage team manager for the International Space Station where he covered the design, manufacturing, test launch, on orbit assembly and operation of the power generation and storage system for the entire space station.

## MCC open for viewing during STS-78

The Mission Control Center viewing room will be open for JSC and contractor badged employees and their families during portions of the STS-78 mission.

Employees will be allowed to visit the MCC from 1-5 p.m. June 29 and 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. July 3.

Highlights during viewing hours will include an education event with Canadian students conducted by Commander Tom Henricks and Payload Specialist Bob Thirsk.

Employees must wear their badges and escort family members through the lobby of Bldg. 30 South.

Children under five will not be permitted. No flash photography or loud talking will be permitted at any time. Because of the dynamic nature of shuttle mission, viewing hours may be changed or canceled without notice.

For the latest information on the schedule, call the Employee Information Service at x36765.



In the Spacehab processing facility, STS-79 Mission Specialists Jay Apt, center, and Carl Walz, right, examine hardware that will fly in *Atlantis*' cargo bay. The STS-79 mission will dock with the Russian Space Station to pick up Cosmonaut Researcher Shannon Lucid after her stay of more than four months on the Russian outpost. During the mission astronauts and cosmonauts will conduct a variety of scientific experiments in the Spacehab module.

## SCH seeks volunteers for new addition

Space Center Houston will be opening the new Kids Space Place July 13 and volunteers are needed to launch the new interactive addition.

The \$1.2 million attraction will be a hands-on area targeting children ages 3-11 that will allow children to experience different aspects of space exploration and the human space flight program. Comprised of 17 different activity areas with 40 individual interactive stations to explore and investigate, Kids' Space Place will be a two-story attraction located within the existing facility, adjacent to SCH's Starship Gallery.

"The volunteer program will be instrumental to the successful operation of the new attraction," said Amanda Hoeftling, Human Resources administrator. "This is definitely an exciting way to give guests a personal and inspiring experience during their visit."

JSC employees are encouraged to share their experiences and expertise with guests at SCH. Volunteers are classified as either "on-stage" as in the case of greeters or mission briefers, or "backstage" for office workers or wardrobe.

"This is definitely a fun way to give our guests a very personal experience during their visit," said Hoeftling. "JSC's employees have a unique perspective on our human space flight program and this program will give them a chance to share their own enthusiasm for NASA's achievements with our visitors from all over the world."

Volunteers are asked to devote one four-hour shift per week and an enrollment fee of \$20 to cover the cost of a volunteer shirt and training materials. For more information call SCH's Human Resources department at 244-2150.



## Lucid writes home from her 'cosmic outpost' about visual tom toms

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There it was, all bright, shiny, and new. The installed American glove box protruding into the aisle gave it a real "science" look. The bright orange cover on top of the glove box added a bit of color to the gray-blue and dusty-pink panels of the floor and walls. Station replacement parts and other equipment were bolted to the walls and ceiling. Just inside the hatch, on the first few floor panels, were bolted row after row of big orange and gray batteries, which were the power for Priroda on ascent. We had to start work almost immediately unbolting and bagging up the batteries because of the ground's concern about leakage into the atmosphere.

After a lot of work, the batteries on the floor were unbolted and I thought the job was complete. Then, Yuri opened a panel that revealed more rows of batteries to be unbolted. Another opened panel revealed yet more batteries; there were batteries without end. And each battery had to

be unbolted, plastic caps had to be put on the four "feet" and on the connectors, and then each battery had to be bagged and tightly tied. Talk about a lot of work. To even reach the batteries, some of the equipment had to be unbolted and the supporting metal framework taken apart. So there the three of us were floating in Priroda surrounded by floating batteries, bagged batteries, equipment and scrap metal. At times I thought that there was enough scrap metal floating there to build station Alpha.

Periodically, free-floating metal pieces would impact each other creating clear metallic tones like cathedral bells in the module and we joked with each other about the "cosmic music" that we were hearing. We devised an assembly line to clean up the mess and got so efficient that we finished the task in one sixth of the time that the ground expected and earned ourselves a holiday.

The other big change, although it is not permanent, was the arrival of

Progress, the resupply vehicle. Usually about every six weeks one is sent to Mir with food, equipment, clothes — everything that, on earth, you would have to go to the store and buy in order to live. Because it had deployed solar batteries, it was easier to spot while approaching the station than Priroda had been. I saw it first. There were big thunderstorms out in the Atlantic, with a brilliant display of lightening like visual tom toms. The cities were strung out like Christmas lights along the coast — and there was the Progress like a bright morning star skimming along the top. Suddenly, its brightness increased dramatically and Yuri said, "The engine just fired." Soon, it was close enough so that we could see the deployed solar arrays. To me, it looked like some alien insect headed straight toward us. All of a sudden I really did feel like I was in a "cosmic outpost" anxiously awaiting supplies — and really hoping that my family did remember to send me some books and candy.

Soon after it docked, the three of us began opening the hatch. When Yuri opened a small valve to equalize the pressure, we could smell the air that was in Progress. Yuri said, "Smell the fresh food." I will admit it was a fruit smell, but I thought it smelled more like the first time you open your refrigerator after a two week vacation only to discover you had forgotten to clean out the vegetable compartment.

The first things we took out were our personal packages and, yes, I quickly peeked in to see if my family had remembered the books and candy I'd requested. Of course they had. Then we started to unpack. We found the fresh food and stopped right there for lunch. We had fresh tomatoes and onions; I never have had such a good lunch. For the next week we had fresh tomatoes three times a day. It was a sad meal when we ate the last ones.

After our impromptu lunch, we took the rest of the afternoon off, looking at our mail that was in the

packages and enjoying the apples and oranges that were also on board. Yuri commented that for the first time all six of the docking ports were now occupied — a Guinness Book record.

Like I said, I had a wonderful bag of new books on Progress. My daughters had hand-selected each one, so I knew I'd enjoy them. I picked out one and rapidly read it. I came to the last page and the hero, who was being chased by an angry mob, escaped by stepping through a mirror. The end. Continued in Volume Two. And was there Volume Two in my book bag? No. Could I dash out to the bookstore? No. Talk about a feeling of total isolation and frustration. You would never believe that grown children could totally frustrate you with their good intentions while you were in low earth orbit, but let me tell you, they certainly can. Suddenly, August and home seem a long way away.

Shannon

## Secretaries receive upgrade

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The team approach is being considered for possible use in other Engineering Division offices.

This pilot is one of several ideas that JSC management and the Human Resources Office have been exploring in partnership with the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 2284.

"We need to seek out more initiatives like this at JSC," said JSC Director George Abbey. "Innovative approaches to accomplishing our work are key in helping us with the challenges we face."

AFGE President Mary McLain

echoed this sentiment adding, "I'm very pleased about participating with management. Secretaries are a very important part of the JSC family and we've made constructive changes on some substantive task and pay issues."

Partnership also eased the way to recent branch-level secretarial promotions. Center management and AFGE shared concerns that streamlining efforts were putting a greater burden on secretaries. Following successful negotiations with AFGE, branch-level secretaries at JSC were recently upgraded from GS-5 to GS-6.

## Space News Roundup

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## JSC pays tribute to space reporter Stephen Gauvain

Long-time space reporter Stephen Gauvain was killed Monday in a one-car accident.

Gauvain, 51, had been with KTRK Channel 13 since 1982 and the space program reporter since 1984, covering more than 60 space shuttle missions.

Gauvain was returning from a live television report in Huntsville on Interstate 45 when his Ford Explorer blew a tire and rolled into a ditch near New Waverly.

A passenger, he was thrown out

of the car out and pronounced dead at the scene. The driver, photographer Dwight Payne, was not seriously injured. Gauvain is survived by a wife and three sons.

JSC paid tribute this week by flying a flag at half-staff over Bldg. 30 following his death Monday. The flag that was flown in his honor will be presented to his family along with a letter of condolence from the center.

At mid-week funeral services for Gauvain had not yet been set.